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HEALTH  
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1946

# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

Public Health Department

OF THE

Lymm Urban District Council

BY

JAMES CULLEN, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H., &c.

*Medical Officer of Health*



# TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LYMM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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*Gentlemen,*

I beg to submit my Report for 1946 as follows:—

## PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The area of the Lymm Urban District is 4,242 acres and the district is divided into four Wards, viz., Lymm, Booths Hill, Heatley and Statham Wards. The two former Wards are chiefly on high ground and form the southerly part of the district, the maximum height being about 200 feet above O.D. The Heatley and Statham Wards which form the northerly portion of the district are chiefly on low lying ground, the minimum height being about 30 feet above O.D.

The subsoil in Lymm and Booths Hill areas is chiefly sandstone, rock, and clay, and in Heatley and Statham areas it consists largely of sand with a considerable area of quicksand beneath.

The District is bounded on the north by the Ship Canal which divides it from the Warrington Rural District, on the south and east by Bradley Brook, Mag Brook, Kay Lane Brook and the River Bollin dividing it from the Bucklow Rural District and on the west by Massey Brook which divides it from the Runcorn Rural District. There is a natural fall in the land from the south to north which provides adequate facilities for satisfactory arrangements for drainage being provided. The prevailing winds are south westerly.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The district is largely residential and agricultural and in addition there are two Salt Works in Heatley and a number of builders' businesses, also a Gold Works in the area.

Rateable Value at end of 1946 = £36,871.

„ „ „ „ 1945 = £35,391.

Product of Penny Rate = £141.

## POPULATION.

The Registrar General's figure is 6,126.

*Birth Rate* per 1,000 of estimated population ... = 17·6

*Total Births* ..... = 108

*Illegitimate Births* ..... = 9

*Still Births*—Legitimate ..... = 4

                  Illegitimate ..... = Nil

*Birth Rate* for England and Wales..... = 19·1



<i>Death Rate</i> per 1,000 of estimated population...	= 11·7
„ „ „ for England and Wales...	= 11·5
„ „ of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births .....	= 44·4
„ „ of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births for England and Wales .....	= 43
<i>Deaths</i> from Puerperal Fever .....	= Nil

It is noteworthy that of a total of 72 deaths

10 were between 80 and 90 years of age,

18 were between 70 and 80 years of age.

The diseases responsible for the highest number of deaths were Diseases of the Heart and Circulation 14, Cancer 11 and Intracranial lesions 13.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases notified during the year 6, Scarlet Fever 2, Measles 2, Dysentery 1, Whooping Cough 1.

Scabies : 66 cases were treated during the year, of these 31 were from other districts.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

I am glad to be able to report that there were no cases of Diphtheria in the District during 1946. The following are the figures for Immunisation forwarded to the Ministry :—

Under 5 years..... 117

Over 5 and under 15 years 46

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Total ... 163

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These figures, whilst good, leave room for improvement, and parents and guardians should now be alive to their onerous responsibility to do their duty, and it is no less, to protect their children by this easy and simple treatment which should commence as soon after the *age of six months* as possible. The injection can be arranged for and given at the Welfare Centre, and I wish to express my thanks to the Doctors and the Nurse for their valuable co-operation.

#### HOSPITAL REPORT.

Cases in hospital at beginning of year .....	2
Cases admitted to hospital during the year .....	4
Cases discharged from hospital during the year...	5
Cases in hospital at end of year .....	1

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 5 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Medical certificates of successful vaccination represented 20% of Births registered in Lymm. This is a poor response.

## MILK.

Twenty samples of milk were taken during the year and, while some were not up to a full standard of cleanliness, only one contained Tubercule Bacilli and it was reported, as usual, to the County Health Department for the necessary action to be taken.

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

These have been kept under observation by us and visits have also been paid by the County Officials. Modernisation of all such buildings is the ideal, but in the meantime while this is out of the question, we have to try and have those existing kept as efficiently as possible with special emphasis on maintained cleanliness.

## HOUSING.

It will be noted that many inspections have been made during the year, and while definite improvements have been carried out in many cases, the remedying of defects has generally been a difficult problem and has involved many contacts with owners, agents and builders, who have themselves been faced with difficulties in meeting our requirements owing to shortage of materials, and there is no sign of an early improvement in this respect but rather to the contrary.

## NEW HOUSES.

During the year 32 permanent houses and 20 prefabricated (Tarran Type) Bungalows were in course of erection, in fact, some of the prefabricated bungalows were completed. These will help considerably to relieve the housing shortage and are forerunners of a larger scheme.

## GENERAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

Statistics can be said to be good, but there is definite under-nourishment of the population which shows itself in a lack of energy and zest and in a variety of sub-acute conditions which, while not particularly noticeable, can be and are very wearing. The *worst* deficiency is in *Fats and Proteins*, and there is also such a lack of variety as to make meals uninteresting and monotonous.

I want to put on record my appreciation of the very willing and kindly help of the Council Officials and Staff.

I beg to remain, Yours very faithfully,

JAMES CULLEN, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H., &c.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LYMM URBAN DISTRICT  
for 1946.

CAUSES OF DEATH. Civilians only.	Males.	Females.
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ... ..	1	1
Other Tuberculosis diseases ... ..	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	—	1
Influenza ... ..	—	1
Measles ... ..	—	—
Cancer, malignant ... ..	9	8
Diabetes ... ..	—	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage ... ..	—	—
Heart Disease... ..	9	5
Other circulatory diseases ... ..	—	1
Bronchitis... ..	1	2
Pneumonia ... ..	1	—
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	—	—
Digestive diseases... ..	1	—
Nephritis ... ..	—	1
Premature Birth ... ..	2	2
Congenital Malformation, &c. ... ..	1	—
Suicide ... ..	—	—
Road traffic accidents ... ..	—	—
Other violent causes ... ..	1	2
All other causes ... ..	5	2
Inter-cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	9	4
	40	32
Deaths of Infants { Total ... ..	3	2
under 1 year.. { Legitimate ... ..	2	2
{ Illegitimate... ..	1	—
Total Births . ... ..	54	54
Legitimate. . . . .	49	50
Illegitimate... ..	5	4

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES  
for the past 10 years in Lymm U.D. :—

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Birth										
Rates	13.76	14.5	12.06	13.47	13.02	17.1	15.1	19.7	16.1	17.6
Death										
Rates	15.45	10.40	8.88	11.39	12.37	10.8	10.03	11.3	15.4	11.7
Inf. Mort.										
Rates	43	58	25	11	87	19	44.9	25.4	64.5	44.4

## ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Particulars of Adoptive Acts, or Parts thereof, in force within  
the Urban District.

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PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 :—

Sections 21, 22 and \*44, and Part \*V.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, AMENDMENT ACT, 1907 :—

Parts \*3, 4, 6 and 10, and Part 8.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS ACT, 1892.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, AMENDMENT ACT, 1890 :—

Part 3 and Part 4.

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NOTE.—Sections starred \* have been repealed by the  
provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### 1.—STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—

Dr. Jas. Cullen, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H., &c.  
M.O.H. (Part time).

D. Mort, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector.

A. Livesey (August, 1946).

### 2.—(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES — Manchester University and Warrington P.H. Department.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES—Supplied by Altrincham Borough.

(c) THE DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION maintains one nurse.

(d) ANTE-NATAL—Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis,  
School and Venereal Disease Clinics are under the  
direct control and administration of the County  
Council.

(e) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION for Infectious Diseases is  
provided by Warrington Borough Council by arrange-  
ment.

### 3.—(a) WATER SUPPLY is from Artesian Wells and is satisfactory in quantity. It is very hard but safe.

(b) SEWAGE—Pending the installation of a modern method  
of Sewage disposal the system of Land Filtration is  
still in operation.

(c) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—About 98 per cent. of the  
houses in the District are provided with water closets.

(d) PUBLIC CLEANSING—The collection of domestic waste,  
trade waste and street sweepings is carried out by  
direct labour.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.—Regular supervision of shops and  
offices in the District was maintained but no action taken under  
the Shops Act, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary conditions of schools are generally  
satisfactory with the notable exception of one Infants' School,  
and, in this case, representations have been made by us indica-  
ting essential requirements. Though some have been carried  
out the most essential are still outstanding owing to the difficulty  
of obtaining materials.



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.  
INSPECTIONS BY SANITARY AND BUILDING INSPECTOR.

NATURE OF INSPECTIONS	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results			REMARKS
		Statut'y	Informal	Notices compl'd with	Out-standing	Legal Pro-ceedings	
GENERAL SANITATION.							
Water Supply... ..	21	5	3	5	—	—	
Drainage of Existing Buildings..	55	—	3	3	—	—	
Stables and Piggeries... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	
Canal Boats ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	380	1	1	1	—	—	
Factories ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Workshops and Workplaces ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Outworkers ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Public Conveniences ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Theatres and Places of Enter- tainment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Refuse Collection ... ..	41	9	9	9	—	—	
Water Closets ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Refuse Disposal (Tips, &c.) ...	14	—	1	1	—	—	
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	282	—	2	2	—	—	
Smoke Observations ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Schools ... ..	16	—	1	1	—	—	
Shops ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Miscellaneous... ..	71	3	25	25	—	—	
Ditches and Watercourses ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infectious Disease Enquiries, Disinfections, &c. ... ..	288	—	—	—	—	—	
HOUSING.							
Number of Houses Inspected under Public Health Acts ...	146	35	39	39	6	—	
Visits paid to above Houses ...	146	—	—	—	—	—	
Number of Houses Inspected under Housing Acts ... ..	11	—	3	3	—	—	
Visits paid to above Houses ...	14	—	—	—	—	—	
OVERCROWDING							
Number of Houses Inspected ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	
Visits paid to above Houses ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	
VERMINOUS PREMISES.							
Number of Houses Inspected ...	4	—	4	4	—	—	
Visits paid to above Houses ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	
Miscellaneous Housing Visits ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	
INSPECTION OF MEAT AND FOOD.							
Total Meat Inspection Visits ...	24	—	—	—	—	—	
Bakehouses ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Cowsheds, Dairies & Milkshops	40	—	3	3	—	—	
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Miscellaneous Food Visits... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	
Street Vendors & Hawkers Carts	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Visits in connection with	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Sampling—Milk... ..	20	—	1	1	—	—	
Water ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1608	53	95	96	7	—	

D. MORT, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., *Sanitary Inspector.*

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—All farms and dairies were inspected.

### RETAILERS AND PRODUCERS.

Milk retailers (including producer-retailers)	17
Producers (total) ... ..	29

### *Special Designations.*

“Tuberculin Tested” Producers ... ..	1
“Accredited” Producers ... ..	20

### SAMPLES OF MILK EXAMINED FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Bulk sampled collected at the farm ... ..	20
Number reported positive ... ..	1

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—Shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is prepared were from time to time inspected.

All meat coming into the District was sent from Government controlled abattoirs where inspection was previously carried out.

The following foodstuffs were inspected in the shops and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

Tinned Meat ... ..	18 lbs.
Tinned Fruit ... ..	9 lbs.
Beef Sausage ... ..	12 lbs.
Luncheon Sausage ... ..	7 lbs.
Salmon ... ..	2 lbs.
Total ...	48 lbs.

I am indebted to Mr. Stacey Hallard (Chief Inspector Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council) for the following particulars of samples taken in the District during 1946. I think the report is very satisfactory. It is as follows :—

Name of Sample.	Number obtained.	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.
Boracic Ointment ... ..	1	—
Cocoa ... ..	1	—
Glycerine ... ..	1	—
Milk ... ..	14	2
Meat Pie ... ..	1	—
Meat Extract ... ..	1	—
Salt ... ..	1	—
	—	—
TOTALS ...	20	2
	—	—

#### PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES NOT UP TO STANDARD.

No.	Sample.	Analysis.	Remarks.
1	Milk	30% deficient in fat ...	Seller cautioned
		Deficiency due to Seller failing to keep milk stirred	
2	Milk	3.3% deficient in fat ...	No action

# AGE GROUPS OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1946.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.													Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total Cases at all ages	Years													Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District
		Under 1														
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ... ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
TOTALS .	6	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	



TUBERCULOSIS.  
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1946.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
	5		1		2		—	

SECTION G.—FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

No action under the above-mentioned Act was required during the year.





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